Here are my suggestions and feedback on the 2011 fiesta:

1. For my first year doing this, I thought this event was truly amazing and everything went great. What a terrific event for our students and our community, and I WISH (so badly) that I could have something like this to attend when I was learning the language!
2. Specifically for the dancing, I thought students really enjoyed this station. Some points to look at for next year:
   * Make sure to have AT LEAST 3 or 4 parent volunteers at this station. It gets crazy as students are coming in and out quickly and getting up and down the stage.
   * Station at least 1 or 2 of the parent volunteers outside of the auditorium to encourage students to come in. We were a little out of the “hubbub” in the auditorium and students forgot about the dancing station at first. When one parent volunteer went out and coaxed students in, word spread and many students came to dance!
   * Passport signing can get CRAZY during this time because so many students come in and out so quickly. Also, some students tried to come in and get their stamp without actually dancing. I would propose having the Spanish teacher in charge of the station (Stephanie in 2011) sitting at a table just inside the entrance to the auditorium. This way students could “drop off” their passports before going in to dance. Once the passports are dropped off, students will be directed in one direction to one set of steps where they can enter the stage. The other parent volunteers would be closer to the stage helping students get on stage and also tying on skirts, etc. Have students “enter the stage” one way and when they are done dancing “exit the stage” on the other set of steps. Have one other parent at the “exit” steps to take off skirts, etc. That helps the congestion and then students coming from the “exit” steps will come get their passport and exit the auditorium. The Spanish teacher (from table at the back of the auditorium) will be able to know this way if students are coming from the “exit steps” and are asking for their passport back actually danced. ☺
   * As far as selecting students from the dance station to come back up during the entertainment, this got difficult to keep track of with everything else going on with passports. I would suggest that if we have the Spanish teacher stationed at the back of the auditorium at a table for passport “drop off” and “return” have a large sign posted where students can “sign up” for this instead of having to ask every group of students that comes in individually and try to frantically write names down. As students are picking up passports on their way out, the Spanish teacher will draw students’ attention to the sign and if people sign up they will then be better informed on what to do.
3. I thought the entertainment was AWESOME!!! The only suggestion I would have is that we prepare ahead of time a place for the entertainers to rehearse so they have this option. The guitarists came to me (because my station was in the auditorium) about 30 minutes before the entertainment started and asked if they could warm-up somewhere. We easily found a spot and set up chairs (no big deal at all), but it might just make it one less thing to have to do if we have it pre set-up in upcoming years.
4. I have received FANTASTIC reviews about the fiesta from my students overall. They loved all the options, etc. and all say that the best part was the entertainment. I did have one parent who visited me to say that the set-up of the first half of the fiesta was very confusing. She and her daughter did not know where to go, what to do, etc. (even though I tried to explain it multiple times in class, haha!). Anyway, are there maybe ways that we could have more people at the doors welcoming people and telling them what to do? Just a suggestion.